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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application

Kokkie SCHNETZ et al.

Application No.: (US National Stage of PCT/EP2004/014894 filed 23 December 2004))

Filed: June 22, 2006

For: IMPROVED METAL STRIP ELECTROPLATING

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows: